Railway ticket counters

1303. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all ticket counters selling IInd class tickets are located far away from the railway stations;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to relocate them inside the railway stations and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Passenger amenities

1304. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Railway would have record earnings at the end of the current financial year by over Rs. 600 crores as compared to previous year; and

(b) if so, what amenities his Ministry proposes to provide to railway passengers by way of reduction in railway fare, hygienic food and retiring room facilities at the railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Revised Target of earnings for current financial (2006-07) year have been fixed as Rs. 5657.81 crore which is more by Rs. 822.22 crore as compared to actual of Rs. 4835.59 for 2005-06.

(b) Ministry of Railway has proposed various discounts in fare at the time of presentation of Budget 2007-08 like reduction in fare by 2 to 8% in different classes, reduction in super fast charges, introduction of tourist tickets, reduction in daily ticket fare for non-suburban IInd Oridnary train and non-superfast Mail/Express trains.

Availability of tea/coffee, breakfast, standard meals and Rail Neer at tea stall/trolleys refreshment rooms at the rate approved by the Ministry